



APPLICATION FOR UNITED STATES PATENT DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name; that

I verily believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural inventors are named below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

A SURGICAL INSTRUMENT

described and claimed in the specification:

Check one

*a. attached hereto.
b. filed on March 11, 2004 as Application No. _____ and amended on _____ (if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the Office all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56.

Under Title 35, U.S. Code §119, the priority benefits of the following foreign application(s) and/or United States provisional application(s) filed by me or my legal representatives or assigns within one year prior to this application are hereby claimed:

United States Provisional Patent Application No. 60/459,260 filed on April 2, 2003

The following application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate on this invention were filed in countries foreign to the United States of America either (a) more than one year prior to this application, or (b) before the filing date of the above-named foreign priority application(s) and/or United States provisional application(s):

I hereby appoint the following as my attorneys of record with full power of substitution and revocation to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent Office:

James A. Oliff, Reg. No. 27,075; William P. Berridge, Reg. No. 30,024;
Kirk M. Hudson, Reg. No. 27,562; Thomas J. Pardini, Reg. No. 30,411;
Edward P. Walker, Reg. No. 31,450; Robert A. Miller, Reg. No. 32,771;
Mario A. Costantino, Reg. No. 33,565; Joel S. Armstrong, Reg. No. 36,430;
Christopher W. Brown, Reg. No. 38,025; Richard E. Rice, Reg. No. 31,560;
Paul Tsou, Reg. No. 37,956; and Eric D. Morehouse, Reg. No. 38,565.

**ALL CORRESPONDENCE IN CONNECTION WITH THIS APPLICATION SHOULD BE SENT TO OLIFF & BERRIDGE,
PLC, P.O. BOX 19928, ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22320, TELEPHONE (703) 836-6400.**

I hereby declare that I have reviewed and understand the contents of this Declaration, and that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

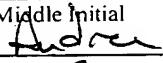
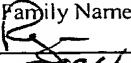
1	Typewritten Full Name of First or Sole Inventor			Roy	R.	CASIANO
				Given Name	Middle Initial	Family Name
2	**Inventor's Signature:			<i>CASIANO</i>		
3	**Date of Signature:			<u>3/29/04</u>		
Residence:		Month	Day	Year		
				USA		
Citizenship:		City	State or Province	Country		
		United States				
Post Office Address:		Suite 4025 (D-1), 1465 NW 12 th Ave				
(Insert complete mailing address, including country)		Miami, FL 33136				

*If Box (a.) is checked, this form may be executed only when attached to the specification (including claims).

**Note to Inventor: Please sign name exactly as it appears above and insert actual date of signing.

IF THERE IS MORE THAN ONE INVENTOR USE PAGE 2 AND PLACE AN "X" HERE

PAGE 2 OF U.S.A. DECLARATION FORM
(Discard this page in a sole inventor application)

1	Typewritten Full Name of Second Joint Inventor (if any)	Phillip	Andrew	RYAN
2	**Inventor's Signature:			
3	**Date of Signature:	03	26	2004
		Month	Day	Year
Residence:	Memphis	Tennessee	USA	Country
Citizenship:	City	State or Province		
	Post Office Address: (Insert complete mailing address, including country)	3558 Charleswood Ave. Memphis, TN 38122 USA		

Note to Inventors: Please sign name exactly as it appears and insert the actual date of signing.

This form may be executed only when attached to the first page of the Declaration and Power of Attorney form of the application to which it pertains.